



**JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE**

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court Judge, 9th Circuit Seat 2

1. Name: Ms. Laura Campbell Waring

Name that you are known by if different from above
(Example: A Nickname): a/k/a Laura Waring Gruber

Are you currently serving in some capacity as a judge? no
(Includes Municipal, Magistrate, Etc.)

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Business Address: 473 Savannah Hwy, Charleston SC 29407

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone Number: (home/cell) [REDACTED]
(office): (843)722-0311

2. Date of Birth: [REDACTED] 1970
Place of Birth: Charleston, SC
Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? yes
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? yes

4. SCDL# or SCHD#: [REDACTED]
Voter Registration Number: [REDACTED]

5. Have you served in the military? No If so, give the dates, branch of service, highest rank attained, serial number (if applicable), present status, and the character of your discharge or release. Please provide a copy of your DD214 concerning your discharge.

6. Family Status: In the space below, (a) state whether you are single, married, widowed, divorced, or separated; (b) if married, state the date of your marriage and your spouse's full name; (c) if you have ever been divorced or are in the process of obtaining a divorce, state the date, name of the moving party, court, and grounds; and (d) state the names of your children and their ages. If your children are old enough to work, include the occupation of each child.

Married on May 10, 1997 to Robert Pruitt Gruber.
Never divorced, three children.

[REDACTED]

7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) University of South Carolina, South Carolina Honors College, 1989-1993 B.A. Cum Laude
 - (b) University of South Carolina School of Law 1993-1996 J.D.

8. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at law school. Give the years you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
 - (a) Children's Law Office Research Assistant/Law Clerk 1995-1996
 - (b) Richland County Guardian ad Litem Project Law Clerk 1995
 - (c) Administrative Law Clinic 1996
 - (d) Public Interest Law Society 1993-1996
 - (e) Volunteer Guardian ad Litem 1993-1996

9. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. Please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.

South Carolina- admitted in 1996 on first attempt at bar exam.

10. Describe chronologically, since graduation from law school, your legal experience. Please include a list of all positions held in which you worked in a legal capacity. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years. Please also describe the extent to which you were involved with the administrative and financial management of each of these entities, including management of trust accounts.

Justices/judges applying for re-election to their current position may omit Questions 11-17. If you are a judge seeking a judgeship different than your current position, Questions 11-17 should be answered based on your experience prior to serving on the bench.

- (a) August 1996-November 1996. Immediately following law school, and prior to bar admission, I worked briefly as Associate Coordinator for the Charleston County Guardian ad Litem Program, an arm of the Governor's Office. My primary job was to assist in case management, court preparation, and training of the volunteer Guardians ad Litem in Charleston County.
- (b) February 1997-July 2003. Attorney Richland County CASA (f/k/a Guardian as Litem Project) After being sworn into the South Carolina Bar in November 1996 and upon completion of Rule 403 experiences, I was employed as a contract attorney to try cases involving termination of parental rights, which was under the Kellogg initiative which

helped achieve permanent homes for children adrift in the foster care system. In addition to trial work, I helped train volunteers before service and prepared them for court appearances, insuring that their written reports met the statutory requirements. We represented over one thousand abused and neglected children in our caseload, through their GAL, in negotiations, court appearances, and in bench trials in the Family Court with little, if any, formal discovery. These cases involved emergency hearings, removal hearings on the merits, judicial review hearings, and termination of parental rights. By statute, all emergency protective custody hearings were held within seventy-two hours. Ninety-five percent of merits cases settled, and about five percent were tried. In several of these cases, children were called as fact witnesses, and our role included preparing children to testify, and when necessary, filing motions in limine. Ninety-five percent of termination of parental rights cases were tried, of which, about five percent resulted in appeal. Occasionally, we entered an appearance on appeal, as amicus, and I was invited to participate in oral argument several times at the Court of Appeals.

- (c) 1997-2000. During my service as a Contract Attorney for CASA, I also had a contract with the University of South Carolina, College of Social Work, Center for Child and Family Studies, as a trainer for a statewide Technical Writing for Court Seminar, a two-day intensive workshop for social workers to insure compliance with statutory mandates. Social workers received continuing education credit for successful participation in the seminar.
- (d) 2001-2002. Senior Staff Attorney, Richland County CASA. As Senior Staff Attorney, I was responsible for the coordination of staff attorneys, again, with a caseload over one thousand, but with more cases being tried. We added three part-time attorneys to meet the demand. As Senior Staff Attorney, in addition to managing the legal staff, my job included representing CASA as 30 (b) (6) designee, participation in panel discussions and child welfare conferences, and presenting to the Richland County Bar Association on the role and responsibilities of the Guardian ad Litem, since the bar was receiving unprecedented appointments for children without a lay volunteer GAL.
- (e) 2002-2003. In 2002, after the birth of our first child, I became a Staff Attorney at Richland County CASA and worked part time while preparing administrative documents for uniform case management.
- (f) August 2003-Present. After relocating to Charleston, I entered private practice in general civil litigation with Grimball & Cabaniss as an associate on a part-time basis. For the first three years, my practice was almost exclusively insurance defense, from preparation of discovery to motions practice and trial. Within the first year, I received my own files from insurance carriers. I received a defense verdict in my first personal injury jury trial in summary court. I handled motions for summary judgment and motions to dismiss as first chair.

As the needs of my firm increased in 2004, my status changed to salary-based, with flexibility in my schedule to care for my growing family. I became approved panel counsel for State Farm Fire and Casualty and handled a wide variety of personal injury claims, from premises liability to libel and slander. I also assisted attorneys in construction cases and appellate work but did not serve as first chair.

In 2006, I was first chair in a month-long jury trial involving several co-defendants and two plaintiffs. That case was appealed, and I was first chair for our client in briefing and at oral argument. We achieved a successful result for our client, a reduction from a jury award of six million dollars in punitive damages and to zero, and a reduction in actual damages from a double verdict of \$248,000 to a single verdict of the same. That appeal resulted in numerous referrals of private clients, both defendants and plaintiffs, and I began a niche practice in the area of libel and slander (for which I was invited to speak at the 2013 Federal Courts Law Review Symposium on “Free Speech Issues in Election Law”).

Around 2007, I began my practice in labor and employment law (although I have not sought certification in this area). My clients have had diverse needs, from public officials seeking retraction of slanderous material to negotiating a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (now ADAAA) to a return to work under modified exposure to a hostile co-worker, and many separation and release agreements along the way. Each case has presented unique challenges, and many clients have sent me letters of thanks after they found successful re-entry into the workforce in a more suitable environment.

Around 2009-2010, many insurance defense firms saw a reduction in case assignment as the economic downturn caused a reduction in contested claims. My practice had to shift to match the needs of the market, and I have enjoyed a boutique practice in employment law since then, with referrals from large firms within and outside of South Carolina. This limited practice has been a blessing to my family, and I have had the flexibility of choosing my cases to match my availability as I have met the needs of my children. Now, with my youngest child entering middle school, this opportunity to serve as a Circuit Court Judge comes at the perfect time.

11. Please answer the following:

- (a) If you are a candidate for Family Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience within each of the following Family Court practice areas: divorce and equitable division of property, child custody, adoption, abuse and neglect, and juvenile justice. Include information about cases you have handled in each of these practice areas, or if you have not practiced in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Family Court Judge. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Family Court Judge within the past five years. N/A
- (b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the types of

matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background and procedural knowledge has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court Judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area. Please also indicate the frequency of your appearances before a Circuit Court Judge within the past five years.

Criminal Matters-

Although I do not practice in this area, I have had the experience of submitting character affidavits for defendants in two guilty pleas and appearing as a representative of a victim's family in another instance, from trial to sentencing. By viewing sentencing from both sides, I understand what each side of the courtroom is experiencing, and I will never forget how well the presiding judges handled the sensitivities of each matter--I am inspired to do the same.

Prior to my civil practice, I was involved in cases of child abuse and neglect. Many of our family court matters had corresponding criminal cases, and we worked with the solicitors and victim advocates to ensure that children were afforded the opportunity to be heard in an age-appropriate manner which also comported with the defendant's right of confrontation.

Civil Matters-

My practice has shifted from mainly defense to mainly plaintiff's cases for the last five years, and these have resolved through mediation or pre-trial negotiations, resulting in fewer court appearances than years past. Moreover, the bulk of my plaintiff's practice has been employment law, which is uniquely quiet, since both sides risk harm to reputation by litigation. I have found that settlement of highly personal matters at the administrative level allows businesses and employees to recover their losses in a cooperative manner. Sometimes a legally based demand letter or a request to cease and desist is worth far more to a client than having to endure years of uncertainty and lack of income. Thus, my last five years of practice have seen fewer litigated cases, and my clients have received the benefit. This list does not include matters in which I served as associate counsel.

- (a) [REDACTED] (Not in suit) Negotiated Separation and Release for Client
- (b) [REDACTED] Minor Settlement for State Farm Insured
- (c) [REDACTED] (Not in suit) Resolved employment issues for Client
- (d) [REDACTED] Minor Settlement for State Farm Insured
- (e) [REDACTED] (Not in suit) Resolved age discrimination issues for Client
- (f) [REDACTED] (Not in suit) Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
- (g) [REDACTED] Administrative Relief for Client-Harassment Allegations
- (h) [REDACTED] Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (i) [REDACTED] Death Settlement for State Farm Insured

- (j) (Not in suit) Resolved Defamation Issues Public Official
- (k) Minor Settlement for State Farm Insured
- (l) (Not in suit) legal opinion for employee post termination
- (m) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (n) (Not in suit) Resolved Sexual Harassment issues for client
- (o) (Not in suit) Resolved wage hour claims for client
- (p) Minor Settlement for State Farm Insured
- (q) Minor Settlement for State Farm Insured
- (r) Cease and Desist for Client
- (s) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (t) Minor Settlement for State Farm Insured
- (u) (Not in suit) Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
- (v) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (w) Employment opinion for client
- (x) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (y) (Not in suit) Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
- (z) (Not in suit) Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
- (aa) (Not in suit) Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
- (bb) Employment opinion for client
- (cc) (Not in suit) Resolved wage hour claims for client
- (dd) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (ee) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (ff) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (gg) Employment opinion for client
- (hh) Resolved Personal Injury Claims for Client
- (ii) Employment/Safety Protocol Opinions for Client
- (jj) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (kk) (Not in suit) Resolved wage hour claims for client
- (ll) (Not in suit) Resolved wage hour claims for client
- (mm) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (nn) Guardian ad Litem Immigration Matter
- (oo) Employment opinion for Client
- (pp) (Not in suit) legal opinion for employee post termination
- (qq) Employment opinion for Client
- (rr) Resolved Personal Injury Claims for Client
- (ss) (Not in suit) Resolved wage hour claims for client
- (tt) Minor Settlement for State Farm Insured
- (uu) Employment opinion for Client
- (vv) Employment opinion for Client
- (ww) Resolved Employment/Tort Claims for Client
- (xx) Employment opinion for Client
- (yy) (Not in suit) Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
- (zz) Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured, Dismissed
- (aaa) Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
- (bbb) (Not in suit) Resolved wage hour claims for client
- (ccc) (Not in suit) Resolved wage hour claims for client

(ddd)	Administrative Relief for client post-termination
(eee)	Employment opinion for Client
(fff)	Employment opinion for Client
(ggg)	(In suit) Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
(hhh)	Employment opinion for Client
(iii)	Employment opinion for Client
(jjj)	Resolved Employment Claims for Client
(kkk)	Employment opinion for Client
(lll)	Employment opinion for Client
(mmm)	Resolved Employment Claims for Client
(nnn)	Resolved Personal Injury Defense Claim for State Farm Insured
(ooo)	Referred out
(ppp)	Guardian ad Litem Name Change
(qqq)	Employment opinion for Client
(rrr)	Resolved Employment Claims for Client
(sss)	(Not in suit) Resolved wage hour claims for client
(ttt)	Special Appearance for Referring Counsel
(uuu)	Employment opinion for Client
(vvv)	Opinion for Client
(www)	Resolved Employment Claims for Client
(xxx)	Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
(yyy)	Resolved Employment/Tort Claims for Client
(zzz)	Guardian ad Litem Name Change
(aaaa)	Administrative Relief for client post-termination
(bbbb)	Minor Settlement for State Farm Insured
(cccc)	(In suit) Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
(dddd)	(Ongoing) Employment Claims
(eeee)	Minor Settlement for State Farm Insured
(ffff)	(Ongoing) Insurance Claim for Client
(gggg)	Employment opinion for Client
(hhhh)	Administrative Relief for client post-termination
(iiii)	(Not in suit) Negotiated Separation and Release Agreement for Client
(jjjj)	(Ongoing) Employment Claims
(kkkk)	Employment opinion for Client
(llll)	(Ongoing) Personal Injury/Post Employment Claims
(mmmm)	(Ongoing) Personal Injury/Post Employment Claims

- (c) If you are a candidate for Master-In-Equity, please provide a brief written description of your experience in the Master's court, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Please include the frequency of your appearances before a Master-In-Equity or a Circuit Court Judge within the past five years. N/A

(d) If you are a candidate for Administrative Law Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience before an Administrative Law Judge, including any issues discussed and the frequency of your appearances before the Administrative Law or Circuit Court within the past five years. N/A

12. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?

(a) federal: Almost all my cases in Federal Court were disposed of before their scheduling orders had expired, and none of these have required oral argument of motions. The requirement of mediation has likewise lessened the trend in trials in Federal Court, as well as the exhaustion of administrative remedies prior to filing suit.

(b) state: Few of my recent cases in State Court have required litigation, but I have appeared in court for minor settlements and appointed cases.

13. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench?

(a) civil: 90%

(b) criminal: 0%

(c) domestic: 5% Guardian ad Litem name changes and appointed DSS cases

(d) other: 5 % Guardian ad Litem in immigration matters

14. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years or in the five years prior to your election to the bench involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?

(a) jury: less than 5%

(b) non-jury: less than 5%

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters? Sole counsel

15. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.

(a) Caddy v. Belfair SCDC, Beaufort Div. 9:17-cv-01153 PMD-MGB Settled

This matter was settled during discovery, before enormous legal expenses had accrued. The allegations involved sensitive and novel issues which required sharp legal research on both sides, and an amicable solution was reached.

(b) Komara v. Siemens SCDC, Charleston Div. 2:15-cv-04522 PMD-MGB Settled

This matter was settled in mediation, with difficult facts and challenging issues of law under the FMLA. While the terms of settlement are not public, it was an amicable resolution of a hard-fought battle on both sides which could have resulted in protracted litigation. Opposing counsel and I handled these issues with utmost civility and with the focus remaining squarely on the needs of our clients.

(c) (Conciliation Agreement) Doe v. Defendant (EEOC Greenville Div.) 2011-2014 Settled

This matter involved a former employee who had both age and disability discrimination claims against her former employer after decades of excellent work. After a lengthy investigation, the EEOC found in favor of our client, and we negotiated a favorable settlement at the Conciliation Conference.

(d) Woods v. Boeing SCDC 2:13-cv-02592 RMG-BHH Summary Judgment for Defendant
Although the Magistrate recommended that Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment be denied, the District Court granted Summary Judgment in favor of Boeing, which was a hard-fought battle on both sides. Despite the enormity of resources of our opposition, we zealously pursued the cause of a former employee under extraordinarily complex law (Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended and AIR 21 and FAA Administrative Proceedings) and counterclaims. While we did not prevail, I can say that that I managed to withstand the pressure of taking on a Goliath and almost defeated our opponent's Motion for Summary Judgment.

(f) Erickson v. Weaver et al Memorandum Opinion No. 2010-MO-006 (Unpublished)

This was a ten-year case which still holds the record for the longest trial in the Charleston County Courthouse, where after one month, the jury returned a verdict for the Plaintiff with millions of dollars in punitive damages and a double verdict of actual damages. After an appeal to the South Carolina Supreme Court, we achieved a successful result for our defendant, with punitive damages vacated and reducing the double award of actual damages to a single award of \$248,000.00 which was applied to all co-defendants.

16. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.

(a) Erickson v Winner et al, Supreme Court of South Carolina, Filed March 1, 2010, Opinion No. 2010-MO-006 (Unpublished) (first chair on Weaver brief and argument)

(b) Miller v Aiken Supreme Court of South Carolina, Filed May 02, 2005 Opinion No. 25976. (assisted in drafting brief-certified question-the Court adopted the argument I drafted)

(c) S. C. Department of Social Services, v. Parker, et al Court of Appeals of South Carolina, Filed June 21, 1999 Opinion No. 3014 (case decided on brief without oral argument, I wrote brief on behalf of Guardian ad Litem)

(d)

(e)

17. List up to five criminal appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported. N/A

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

18. Have you ever held judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the courts involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court. N/A
19. If the answer to question 18 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions. N/A
- (a)
 - (b)
 - (c)
 - (d)
 - (e)
20. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
- (a) South Carolina, 1996;
 - (b) US District Court for the District of South Carolina, 2003.
21. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
- (a) I taught a statewide two-day seminar "Technical Writing for Court" from 1997-2000
 - (b) I lectured at the Children's Law Office "Representing Guardians ad Litem" 2000
 - (c) I lectured at Richland County Bar Association Ethics CLE "How to Handle Court Appointments" November 2001
 - (d) I was a panelist for the Children's Law Office Volunteer Guardian ad Litem Statewide Conference 2002
 - (e) I was a panelist of Federal Courts Law Review Annual Symposium "Election Law in the Federal Courts" regarding "Free Speech Issues in Election Law" 2013
 - (f) I was a guest panelist for an ethics CLE sponsored by Young Clement Rivers LLC and presented at various venues including the Worker's Compensation Annual Conference 2016-2017, which was available for Substance Abuse and Mental Health credits
 - (g) I was a guest judge at the Charleston School of Law, Trial Advocacy Course 2018
22. Provide, as a separate attachment, your continuing legal or judicial education report from the past five years.
- (See Attached)
23. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
- (unsure of date or if published) Federal Courts Law Review Annual Symposium

Charleston Mercury “The First Amendment is Not Dead-It’s Frozen” (Copy Attached)

24. Please furnish as a separate attachment, two examples of legal articles, briefs, orders, or other legal writings for which you can claim sole or primary authorship. If you cannot claim sole authorship, please explain the extent to which you are the primary author, to include a description of the other authors and their contributions. The writing samples are for the Commission’s use only and will not be published. (If you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, this question is inapplicable.)

(See Attached)

25. What is your rating or membership status, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who’s Who Legal, Super Lawyers, Million Dollar Advocates Forum, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.

Martindale-Hubbell Rating B-V

26. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.

(a) South Carolina Bar (1997-present)

Children’s Committee-Chairman, Child Protective Services Committee (2002)

(b) Charleston County Bar Association (2003-present)

(c) Richland County Bar Association (1997-2003)

(d) Federal Bar Association (2005-2007)

(e) American Bar Association (1997-2000)

27. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, list the periods of your service, the office or offices involved, and whether you were elected or appointed. Also, state whether or not you have timely filed your report with the State Ethics Commission during the period you held public office. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty? If so, give details, including dates. N/A

28. For sitting or former judges, list all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor. N/A

29. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates. N/A

30. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including a description of your occupation, business, or profession, the dates of your employment, and the name of your business or employer.

I was licensed as a Spin Instructor and taught weekly spin classes for payment at East Shore Fitness, a local fitness club from 2008-2010.

My husband and I have recently started a small family business called Peregrination LLC, which produces travel and educational videos. My role is minimal, as a creative and artistic producer.

31. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? Explain the nature of the business, your duties, and the term of your service.

My husband and I have recently started a small family business called Peregrination LLC, which produces travel and educational videos. My role is minimal, as a creative and artistic producer.

32. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a “lobbyist,” as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a “lobbyist’s principal,” as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? If so, give the dates of your employment or activity in such capacity and specify by whom you were directed or employed. N/A

33. Provide, as a separate attachment, a complete, current financial net worth statement that itemizes in detail:

- (a) the identity and value of all financial assets held, directly or indirectly, including, but not limited to, bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings; and
- (b) the identity and amount of each liability owed, directly or indirectly, which is in excess of \$1,000, including, but not limited to, debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations.

(A net worth statement form is provided with this questionnaire and you must use this format for submission of your financial statement.)

A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.

NOTE: The Commission may require written confirmation that financial obligations have been satisfied or that the parties have agreed upon a payment schedule.

34. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? No Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? No Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? If so, give details.

No

35. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? If so, please specify the item or items you received, the date of receipt, and the lobbyist or lobbyist's principal involved.

No

36. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. If you have spent over \$100, have you reported your expenditures to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?

De minimis expenses of printing and postage for application.

37. List the recipient and amount of all contributions made by you, a member of your immediate family, or by a business with whom you are associated, to members of the General Assembly within the past four years.

N/A

38. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? If so, please specify the amount, solicitor, donor, and date of the solicitation.

No

39. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek or currently hold. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.

My family has ties to Evening Post Industries and the Charleston Mercury. I would recuse myself from cases involving those two entities and/or their subsidiaries.

40. Describe any interest you or a member of your immediate family has in real property:
- (a) in which there is a potential conflict of interest with your involvement in a South Carolina state or local public agency;
 - (b) in which there have been public improvements of \$200 or that adjoins property in which there have been public improvements of \$200; or
 - (c) which was sold, leased, or rented to a state or local public agency in South Carolina.

N/A

List the interest you hold and the value and location of the property. Identify as applicable the:

- (a) nature of any potential conflict of interest;
- (b) nature and value of any public improvements; and
- (c) South Carolina state or local public agency which purchased or is leasing or renting such property.

Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

N/A

41. Identify any personal property interest you or a member of your immediate family sold, leased, or rented to a South Carolina state or local public agency. Identify the property, its amount or value, and the name of the agency. Attach a copy of any contract or agreement.

N/A

42. For sitting judges, if you currently hold an interest in stock or other securities or have held such an interest, list each stock you currently own or owned during the prior calendar year. If you prefer, you may attach broker or account records containing the requested information instead of listing it here.

N/A

43. For sitting judges, have you ever accepted anything of value from an attorney or litigant in a matter currently or previously before you or your court? If so, please give the details, including the name of the attorney or litigant and the thing of value you received.

N/A

44. For sitting judges, have you used the services of your staff, for which you did not pay, while campaigning for this office?

N/A

45. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law? If so, give details but do not include traffic violations which are subject to a penalty of \$125 or less. You must include any and all arrests, including, but not limited to, offenses for driving under the influence or similar traffic offenses. Include all arrests that resulted in expungement, which will be redacted. If you have questions regarding whether to include an offense, please contact the Commission.

[All answers have been received and considered by the Commission, and as noted above, any expunged matters are redacted from the record.]

46. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? If yes, explain.

No.

47. Have you ever been sued by a client? Have you ever been a named party (personally or professionally) in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give details, including, but not limited to, dates, and resolutions.

No

48. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy? If so, please explain when you were covered by a tail policy. Also, if applicable, indicate your coverage and deductible for your current malpractice policy.

I have been covered by our law firm's malpractice insurance since I joined the firm in 2003 and coverage has not been triggered.

49. Have you ever, in South Carolina or any other jurisdiction, as a lawyer, judge, or other professional, been sanctioned or disciplined for lawyer, judicial, or other professional misconduct or has any jurisdiction found that you committed any misconduct? If so, give the details and describe any final disposition. Include any and all confidential and public sanction, discipline, or finding of misconduct of any kind.

[Yes and no responses are redacted for all candidates unless there is a public discipline.]

50. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? If so, give the details and the resolution. Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? If so, give the details.

No

Note: The flash drive with your application materials contains (1) Section 2-19-70(c); (2) JMSC Rule 24, and (3) informal opinions and letters concerning pledging prohibitions, with which third parties acting on your behalf, as well as you, must comply.

51. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened or have you been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? If so, give details.

No

52. Have you requested any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Describe the campaigning you have done for this election and include a list of those individuals you have asked to campaign on your behalf and, to the best of your knowledge, those who have campaigned for you on their own initiative.
No
53. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges until after the draft report becomes final, which occurs on the day and time specified on the Commission's published screening schedule?
Yes
54. Since submitting your letter of intent to become a candidate, have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted any member of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? If so, give details.
No
55. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of five (5) persons from whom you are providing references. Also, provide the Commission with **original letters** of recommendation from each person listed herein, including their signature (preferably in blue ink). **The Commission will not accept a photocopy or electronic submission of a letter of recommendation and failure to include all five (5) original letters of recommendation in your packet when you submit it will render your packet incomplete.** Please **do not** have references mail your reference letters to the Commission directly. *You must return the five (5) original letters of recommendation to the Commission with your application packet.*
- (a) Carol B. Ervin, Young Clement Rivers, LLC
25 Calhoun St., PO Box 993, Charleston SC 29402 (843) 724-6653
 - (b) Henry W. Frampton IV, Gordon & Rees, Scully Mansukhani
40 Calhoun St. Suite 350, Charleston SC 29401 (843) 714-2503
 - (c) Michael J. Ferri, Grimbball & Cabaniss, LLC
473 Savannah Hwy, Charleston SC 29407 (843) 722-0311
 - (d) David H. Maybank, Jr. Maybank & Owings, LLC
P.O. Box 80669, Charleston SC 29416 (843) 819-7075
 - (e) Amanda K. Dudgeon, Chandler & Dudgeon, LLC
PO Box 547, Charleston SC 29402 (843) 577-5412
56. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site or have you, to your knowledge, been featured or depicted on a social media or Internet site, such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.? If so, how would your use of social media or other similar types of Internet sites be affected if you were serving in a judicial capacity?

My law firm internet site features my photograph. I am on LinkedIn with my professional profile, but I do not use for personal purposes. My photograph is featured as an alumni

member of LCHR, a roller derby team. My family has a website Peregrinationllc.com for our travel blogs and photos, and my husband and children use Facebook and Instagram in which they have posted photos of me. My incidental inclusion in family photos should not pose problems, but my family is instructed to be careful in all social media endeavors, as appearances can be misconstrued.

57. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

(a) Vestry Member St. Michael's Church, Anglican, 2017-Present
Strategic Planning Committee, Team Leader Family Service, Assistant Teacher Confirmation Class, Sunday School Volunteer Teacher

(b) Charleston Museum Board of Trustees, 2012-2018
Strategic Planning Committee
FANS of the Charleston Museum
Co-Chairman 2015-2017
Fundraising efforts helped the Charleston Museum with important capital campaigns, including the rebuilding of the courtyard and the renovation of the Bunting Natural History Gallery

(c) Charleston City Ballet Company Board of Trustees, Charter Member 2012-2016
Spearheaded fundraising and board recruitment efforts which culminated in successful Piccolo Spoleto productions for several years

(d) St. Andrew's School of Math and Science PTA President 2010-2012
With a student population of 755, of whom half are free or reduced lunch recipients, our PTA organized public awareness campaign for Penny Sales Tax Referendum which resulted in grassroots support and ultimate voter approval—our school was rebuilt and our community has rebuilt several schools under this funding project.

Other memberships and honors:

Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University, the online Media Network, Colonial Dames, Carolina Assembly, Delta Delta Delta, Omicron Delta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Delta, Gamma Beta Phi, Golden Key National Honor Society, Carolinian Society, Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities, Mortar Board Graduate Fellowship, Outstanding Senior Award

58. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be.

To whom much is given, much is expected. While I have been given the opportunities and privileges of a great education and supportive family, I have never lost sight of how important it is to reach out beyond my comfort zone. In my legal practice, I have seen the horrors of child abuse and neglect, but I have implemented better systems for advocacy and better practices for those who represent children.

In private practice, my clients have ranged from corporations to hourly employees, and I can honestly say I have treated each client's case with the attention it deserves regardless of the amount of the fee agreement. Some of my greatest successes are the stories that will never be written in the county bar verdict reports—employees who returned to their pre-termination positions, companies who have implemented safer practices, public officials who regained credibility after being defamed, and the countless insureds whose lives were returned to normal upon the resolution of lawsuits. I treasure the numerous thank you notes I have received from my clients as hallmarks of success.

By representing both defendants and plaintiffs, I have the unique perspective of seeing both sides of litigation. My ability to “cut to the chase” has saved both plaintiffs and defendants time and money, but when litigation is warranted, I have never shied away from a challenge, no matter how formidable the opponent. Because of my faith, my self-worth is not based upon my accomplishments but what has been instilled through worship and spiritual grace.

My professional career has brought years of learned wisdom and skill, but my fairness and even temperament have been present since childhood. Those essential traits set me apart from my peers and make me best suited for this position. I look forward to the opportunity to stand for any questions the Commission may have for me, and I thank you all for your service.

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: _____

Sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 2018.

(Notary Signature)

(Notary Printed Name)

Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: _____